



FRANKLY SPEAKING

Dear VOMARC,

Sorry, my Dad was not able to finish the letter he was writing for your newsletter. Every time he sits down, I climb up on the couch and pretend I am going to jump off! It is pretty funny to see how fast he can get across the room, and his face turns the coolest shade of red...

—Mason

NEXT MEETING

Wed, July 20, 2016, 7:30pm
City of Sonoma EOC

MINUTES, June 15, 2016

Called to order at 7:28 PM by lowly VOMARC Secretary, KD6FIL

KD6FIL (Dave), KG6QNT (Eileen), K6KLL (Alan), N7PIB (San), W1EJ (Ed), WA6CRB (Dan), KJ6QIQ (Scott), WB6TMH (Mike), N6KM (Ken), WD6BOR (Darrel), KB6BIX (Kim), K6UUW (Jim), NJ6E (Stan), KA2QQO (Declan)

Welcome from the Secretary.

Introductions, thank you Kim for remembering who we all are!

Minutes: OOPS, we forgot to approve them. Does anyone read these things anyway?!

Officer Announcements

President: KG6N – MIA – (Moving in Action!)

Vice President: KJ6QIQ – Hello

Treasurer: KG6QNT – We have \$4426.43 in the bank and we got the \$500 deposit back from the County for the Vet's Building.

Secretary: KD6FIL- Insurance is paid for next year. **(We got our new policy on June 22)** The cost of renting the Vet's hall is about \$2700. If we do not get the free day from the City of Sonoma it is not financially feasible to have the Hamfest at the Vet's Building. **(We were granted a free day by the City on June 27)** Other options discussed were a portable grill, the Moose Lodge, a food wagon with vendors.

Radio Officer: WB6TMH Is working on the filters, but could use the capacitors that Darrel has to finish up.

Training Officer: K6UUW – School is out and the training officer is on vacation!

Old business:

Family Fun Day will be at the Sonoma Sky Park on June 11. VOMARC is planning to setup a demonstration station for the event.

N6P is coming up on August 19 and 20. We need to get the insurance and application in to the Park Service so we can get on their calendar.

4th of July parade is looking for help. If anyone is interested in volunteering let me know.

At the Cross Roads is coming up on July 24. This is a low key event where VOMARC provides communications for a hike on Mt Tam. It is great experience if you have not done a public service event before. We need 4 to 6 people to make this happen. This is a fund raiser for At the Cross Roads, which is an independent organization that helps homeless youth in San Francisco and does amazing work.

New Business:

Field Day is coming up on June 25 and 26 (turned out to be two of the hottest days so far this year! We all roasted!!!!) We are planning to operate 3A with a GOTA station. Tim-W7ASY will be down to setup a station and operate with us (Thanks for joining us!!) Setup will start on Friday afternoon with the raising of the antennas and operating starts at 11 AM on Saturday. The epic BBQ is Saturday night (it was epic and I ate WAY TOO MUCH!)

WB6TMH (Mike) was the lucky recipient of the mystery box.

Meeting Adjourned around 8 PM.

Steve Wilson, KG6HJU, gave a great presentation on "How to Operate HF" over Skype. It worked great and opens up opportunities for other speakers. **Thank You Steve!!!**

—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

FCC Transitions to New Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS)

The FCC transitioned to a new Electronic Comment Filing System ([ECFS](#)) with a "hard launch" on Monday, June 20. The FCC said its legacy system no longer is available, but all documents and files remain accessible in the new system, and saved links (bookmarks or favorites) to documents and proceedings should not need to be adjusted. The modernization project is expected to significantly improve the resiliency and performance of ECFS, the FCC said.

"This system contains the entire history of docketed proceedings from 1992 to the present," the FCC said. "New submissions will be added to the public record. We will continue to refine this system in response to [user feedback](#)."

The ECFS has become the most popular way to gather public comments on Amateur Radio-related proceedings. The FCC said the public can use the ECFS to [retrieve](#) any document in the system, including selected pre-1992 documents that have been scanned into the system. The system also lets users [browse](#) popular proceedings.

It's also possible to [submit a filing](#) via the ECFS, using *Word*, PDF, or *Excel* files, and the system lets filers [check the status](#) of their submissions and to see if a filing now is available online. (from ARRL newsletter)

—submitted by Jim K6UUW

FCC's OET Clarifies Emissions Compliance Testing for RF LED Lighting Devices

The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology ([OET](#)) [has clarified](#) that all RF LED lighting devices falling under Part 15 rules as "unintentional radiators" must meet conducted and radiated emissions limits set forth in those rules.

"Operation of Part 15 unintentional radiators is subject to the condition that no harmful interference is caused," the OET reminded, in a knowledge database paper released on June 17. "Manufacturers and users should therefore note that lighting devices are required to cease operation, if harmful interference occurs."

The OET said radiated emissions measurements must be performed at least from 30 MHz to 1000 MHz to adequately demonstrate compliance with Part 15 (§15.109). Its guidance, the OET continued, applies to RF LED lighting devices that, in the past, have been considered to operate on frequencies below 1.705 MHz. Previously, devices operating between 9 kHz and 1705 kHz had to be tested only for radiated emissions up to 30 MHz, where no specified radiated emissions limits exist, and were exempt from testing from 30 MHz to 1000 MHz. The OET said it recognizes that routine radiated emissions measurements are needed under Part 15, based on the highest frequency generated or used in the device. (from ARRL newsletter)

—submitted by Jim K6UUW

India Launches Amateur Radio Satellites

The Indian Space Research Organization ([ISRO](#)) has successfully launched several satellites carrying Amateur Radio payloads. Satellites put into orbit include [Swayam-1](#), a 1U CubeSat that

carries a digital store-and-forward messaging system for use by the Amateur Radio community.

"We are eagerly waiting for your reception report of the CW beacon at 437.025 MHz. You

can also get the decoded beacon data by entering 'beacon' in *Swayam* [beacon signal decoder](#) available on our website," said Rupesh Lad, VU2LRD/VU2COE of the College of Engineering Pune CSAT team.

Swayam is in a low-Earth polar orbit. It operates on 437.025 MHz with a power output of 1 W. Other satellites on the launch that carried Amateur Radio payloads include BEESAT-4 (435.950-4800 bps GMSK, CW); BIROS (437.525-4800 bps GMSK; Max Valier (145.860 MHz down, 145.960 MHz CW beacon), and Sathyabamasat (145.980-2400 bps BPSK). (from ARRL newsletter)

—submitted by Jim K6UUW

The Good Old Days

Eric, NO3M, [built a replica 1930's era transmitter from scratch for 2016 field day](#), and was using it under the call W8CDX. Featuring a four-tube exciter and 203A amplifier stage, he eventually achieved over 100 watts output. One cannot help thinking that we take modern gear too much for granted as he describes using hand capacitance to zero-beat the transmitter to the stations worked. Eric's article includes links to additional pictures, and WA3TTS's video of the transmitter in operation. Eric and friends had such a blast that they're going to be adding 20

and 80 meters next year, and operate the entire weekend.(From Arrl Contest newsletter)

—submitted by Jim K6UUW

Field Day 2016



Portable from the backyard



—Photos by Dave KD6FIL

Equipment for Sale

UHF/VHF (yagis and verticals) antenna sale.

By Ken, N6KM.

For more information, Call 938-2626 or

kmct@vom.com"

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 20 EDITION 1

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Frank Wiebusch KG6N — President

Scott Wellington KJ6QIQ —Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Sanford Smith, N7PIB – VE Liaison

Jim Hill, K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator, Training Officer, President Emeritus

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmeistress, Editor

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC."—S. Marler

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the City of Sonoma Police Department EOC 175 1st St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: <http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Black Bear Restaurant, 201 W Napa St, #34 (Marketplace Shopping Center), Sonoma. The fun starts at 08:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—or—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
C/O Sonoma Police Department

175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

**2016 ACS
Net Control Assignments**

| | Name | Call |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| JANUARY | MOE | KI6JNU |
| FEBRUARY | SCOTT | KJ6QIQ |
| MARCH | SCOTT | KJ6QIQ |
| APRIL | JIM | K6UUW |
| MAY | DICK | KF6FZM |
| JUNE | MOE | KI6JNU |
| JULY | KEN | N6KN |
| AUGUST | GILL | KJ6EIG |
| SEPTEMBER | SAM | W5LTP |
| OCTOBER | DICK | FK6FZM |
| NOVEMBER | MIKE | WB6TMH |
| DECEMBER | DARREL | WD6BOR |

**2016 VOMARC
Net Control Assignments**

| | Name | Call |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| JANUARY | SCOTT | KJ6QIQ |
| FEBRUARY | JIM | K6UUW |
| MARCH | MOE | KI6JNU |
| APRIL | DAVE | KD6FIL |
| MAY | ED | W1EJ |
| JUNE | FRANK | KG6N |
| JULY | MOE | KI6JNU |
| AUGUST | | |
| SEPTEMBER | SAM | W5LTP |
| OCTOBER | DICK | KF6FZM |
| NOVEMBER | MIKE | WB6TMH |
| DECEMBER | DARREL | WD6BOR |

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE JULY 20, 2016, 7:30PM, CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE
DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST WEST, SONOMA CA 95476**

SEE YOU THERE.

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2016

Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**.